setting up of Exclusive Special Courts in every district to deal with cases of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It was also requested that the Central Government may sanction this amount as a 100% Central Assistance.

(b) and (c) As the implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the Central Assistance is released to the States on Matching basis of 50:50. The Central Assistance is released as and when the Government of Andhra Pradesh provides the required provision in their budget for this purpose.

Central Assistance for Andhra Pradesh Welfare Bodies

2839. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government for assistance of Rs. 13.12 crores towards share capital contribution for the Backward Class Co-operative Societies Federations and Andhra Pradesh Washermen Co-operative Societies Federations;

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be granted; and

(c) by when it would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No Sir, the Government has not received any such proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Increase in allocation for SCs, STs and Minorities

2840. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocation for development of SCs, STs and Minorities is proposed to be doubled;

(f so, the details of present allocation . each category;

(c) whether some criteria to provide the benefits of such enhancement to the beneficiaries has been laid down; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with formalities to be undertaken by these beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The allocation of funds for development of SCs, STs and Minorities for the year 1998-99 (Budget Estimates) is higher as compared to the actual expenditure during 1997-98, as per details given below:—

	1997-98 (Expenditure)	1998-99 (Budget Estimates)
	(Rs. in crores)	
Scheduled Castes	618.47	785.93
Scheduled Tribes	466.71	576.79
Minorities	41.01	77.46

(c) and (d) Every scheme has laid down procedures and benefits accrue to the beneficiaries accordingly.

गुजरात में निराश्रित बच्चों का कल्याण

2841. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला:** क्या सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुजरात में ऐसे शहरों की संख्या क्या है जहां निराश्रित बच्चों के कल्याण संबंधी योजना कार्यान्वित की जा रही है;

(ख) इस योजना का विस्तृत ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस योजना के अंतर्गत कितने बच्चे लाभान्वित हो रहे हैं; और

(घ) क्या इस योजना का समय-समय पर मूल्यांकन किया जा रहा है और इस योजना के अंतर्गत और अधिक बच्चों को शामिल करने हेतु कौन-कौन से कदम उठाये जा रहे है?

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मेनका गांधी): (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Allocation to Maulana Azad Educational Trust

2842. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is allocation to Maulana Azad Educational Trust for 1998-99;

(b) how many beneficiaries have been assisted so far; and

(c) whether Government have plans to expand its activities by providing further funds to the corpus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The proposed Budget allocation made in the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for the Year 1998-99 for grant in aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation (not Maulana Azad Educational Trust) is Rs. 30.00 Crores.

(b) Upto 31st March, 1998, the Foundation has assisted 124 NGOs located in various parts of the country.

(c) After the initial grant in aid of Rs. 5.00 Crores, released to the Foundation during the financial year 1992-93, subsequent two grants of Rs. 25.01 Crores and Rs. 40.00 Crores, released during the financial years 1994-95 and 1997-98 respectively, were meant to provide for the expanded activities of the Foundation. The amount of Rs. 30.00 Crores, budgetted for in the Demands for Grants of the Ministry for 1998-99, is also meant to provide for expanded activities of the Foundation. All these amounts form a Corpus Fund meaning thereby that while the principal amount shall remain intact, the income there-from is used by the Foundation to finance its activities.

Special Employment Exchange for Handicapped in Gujarat

2843. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up Special Employment Exchanges and Special Cells for handicapped persons in Gujarat exclusively to help them in getting gainful employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) As per information available in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, five Special Employment Exchange for the handicapped persons at Ahmedabad, Baroda, Mehsana, Rajkot and Surat have been set up in Gujarat exclusively to help them in getting gainful employment.

National Employment Centre for Disabled

2844. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish the National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People preferably at Nagpur in Maharashtra to promote employment